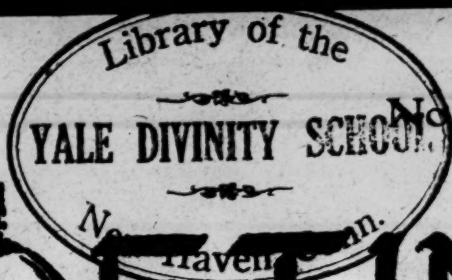
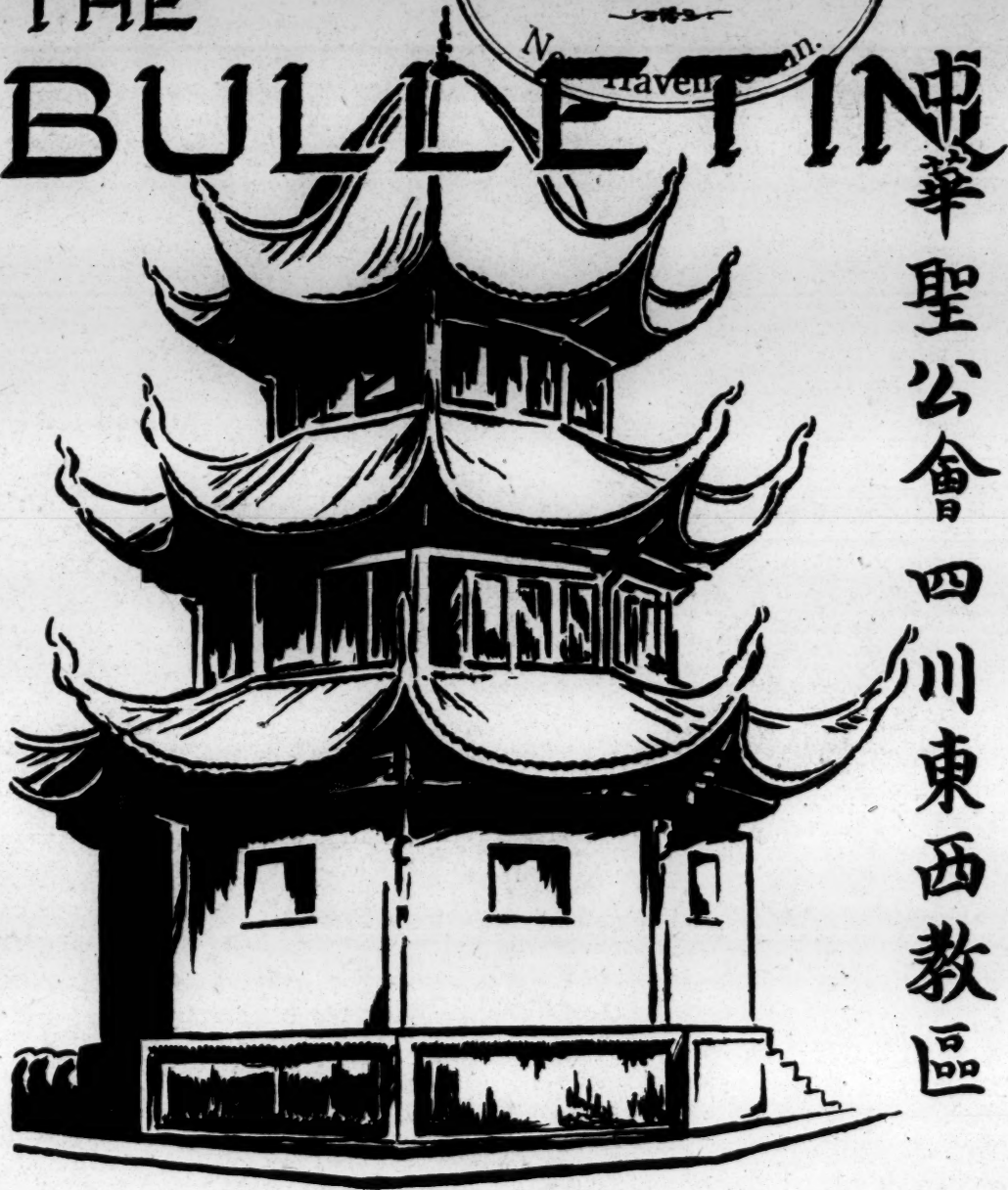


1939 (no. 139-142)



139.

THE BULLETIN



中華聖公會四川東西教區

OF THE
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
FOR
WESTERN CHINA

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JANUARY, 1939.

no. 139-142

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LETTER FROM BISHOP HOUGHTON.

Bishop's House,
Chühsien, Szechwan, China.
31st October, 1938.

DEAR FRIENDS OF WESTERN CHINA,

Perhaps no event of recent months has encouraged us so much in our prayers for China as God's intervention in the European crisis at the end of September. After the first half-uttered sentence of praise and thanksgiving, my own immediate reaction was: Is He the God of Europe only? Is He not also the God of Asia? May we not believe that He can intervene just as unexpectedly, just as decisively, here in China as at home? And even the grim news of the fall of Canton and Hankow, with all the incredible pain and misery that accompany these events, all the mental suffering to millions of Chinese who are spared the physical experience, have not dimmed the assurance that China is not forgotten before God. On the side of the oppressors there is power, but God is on His throne, judging right, and the end will be far other than they anticipate. The personality of Chiang Kai-shek is still China's greatest asset, and our prayer is that in spite of evil tidings his heart may be fixed, trusting in the

Lord, and that notwithstanding overwhelming reverses, his steadfast courage may continue to inspire this stricken people.

I am writing on the eve of a meeting of the Standing Committee of the diocese. Immediately after its conclusion, my wife and I expect to leave for Chungking, and then, if the road is open and the general situation seems to warrant my absence from the diocese, we travel by air, rail and steamer to Hongkong for a meeting of the House of Bishops. The two main purposes of this meeting are the consecration of the Rev. C. B. R. Sargent as Assistant Bishop of Fukien, and the choice of a successor to Bishop Holden in Western Szechwan. I trust that the decision which we reach may be communicated to London in time for insertion in this issue of the "Bulletin."

From Hongkong we go to Shanghai, and look forward with special pleasure to meeting the Rev. W. H. Aldis there. He is visiting Shanghai for a conference of the directors of the China Inland Mission (but not, alas! coming to Szechwan at present), and simultaneously there is an important gathering of the China Council of the C.I.M. I should not have felt it right to leave Szechwan just now to attend either the Hongkong or the Shanghai meeting alone, but it seemed difficult to resist the opportunity of killing two birds with one stone! We fully hope to be back in the diocese by the middle of January.

Last week we returned to Chühsien after an absence of five weeks. The outward journey, as far as Nanpu and Futsunyi, was none too easy. The stone or mud tracks were deep in slime, or else so slippery that progress was painfully slow. Night after night we failed to make our stages, or struggled on by the light of lanterns or electric torches (expensive luxuries in war-time!) until long after dark. The coolies behaved well on the

whole and even when they slithered to the ground managed to prevent our chairs from falling into the rice fields. Such continuous rain, particularly in the months of June and October, has not been known for forty years!

We thank God for an unusually good rice harvest, but the economic position is not very satisfactory. The very abundance of rice has driven the price too low, and since so vast a number of consumers in China are also to some extent producers, money is very tight. Moreover, apart from this one staple food, the cost of living is rising rapidly owing to the war. Lighting has become quite a problem, for oil is nearly 400 per cent. more expensive than it was two years ago, and will soon be unobtainable at any price. Vegetable oil is a very inferior substitute.

But when we compare our favoured lot with that of millions in the war areas, we are ashamed even to mention our little deprivations, and I only do so because they affect the struggle of our churches to attain self-support. The church will not necessarily be healthy because it is self-supporting, but none the less self-support is one of the marks of a healthy church!

The two places in the diocese which have so far received unwelcome attention from the air are Chungking and Liangshan. One needs no supernatural gift of prophecy to forecast the continuance and multiplication of such attacks, though it is still unlikely that Szechwan will be the theatre of operations by land. Even in a publication which is largely a family concern, it would be unwise to add more, but Christians in the places which I have named, and some others, will especially need our prayers, and a further problem (and privilege) will be our ministry to an increasing number of refugees from other provinces, especially those "of the household of faith."

The Rev. K. G. Bevan, of Tahsien, has been serving C.I.M. missionaries in several provinces from our centre in Hankow. He was on his way back to this province, and had actually reached Ichang, when he was summoned by wire to Nanchang, the capital of Kiangsi, to escort a party of lady missionaries, including Mrs. Bevan, Mrs. Robinson and Miss Fearn, who are returning to Szechwan. They began their journey from Shanghai when conditions were relatively stable, but Hankow has fallen since then, and quite apart from the dangers of attack from the air, the problem of securing accommodation on a river steamer will be so acute that it will be a miracle if they get through. It is at such times that our weak faith is rebuked by the question of Zechariah 8. 6: "If it is marvellous in the eyes of (missionaries in Eastern Szechwan), should it also be marvellous in Mine eyes, saith the Lord of Hosts?" Nothing is impossible with Him.

He showed His power in Wanh sien and Kaihsien during the Rev. Marcus Cheng's meetings there, and that statement holds good in spite of the inevitable counter-attack. There were some clear conversions, and a much larger number received the assurance of salvation. Mr. Cheng is at present busy arranging for his monthly magazine, "Evangelism," to be printed in Szechwan, instead of at Changsha, but I still hope he may be free to conduct a further series of meetings at Tahsien, Chühsien and Kwangan. Meanwhile his family are staying at Kaihsien.

And now for a word or two about our recent itinerary. A few days in the Futsunyi area were full of encouragement. I met for the first time several groups of recently-converted people, to whom the love of God and the experience of salvation is something very fresh and joyous. In one place, particularly, they sang hymns and choruses with a

mirth and abandon that one rarely meets. Workers, both Chinese and foreign, who have often been disappointed by the discovery of ulterior motives in enquirers, report joyfully, if half incredulously, that these country people seem to have no other idea in coming to services than to believe and be saved! The percentage of illiterates among them is less than I anticipated, and the work is still spreading from home to home and from market to market, gradually drawing nearer to the city of Kienkoh, which for many years it has been our dream to reach with the Gospel.

One of the most encouraging signs in Paoning and Nanpu is the Young People's Forward Movement. In Nanpu they have formed a sort of Christian Union in the school, and I found it exhilarating and amusing to attend one of their meetings, and to hear boys of twelve or thirteen electing officers with a regard to the rules of procedure which some members of Parliament might emulate! But when I spoke on our Lord's question to Peter, "Lovest thou Me?" there was a deep attention and a real response. In Paoning, where the average age is higher and the numbers larger, a Young People's Evangelistic Band sallies forth on Sunday afternoons, and it is good that these young men should learn the joy of witnessing. Ask Mr. Gordon Aldis about it when you see him! He is leaving for furlough almost immediately. Mr. Crockett, whose wife (formerly Dr. Jackson) is back in the Hospital, is giving most of his time to young people's work. He has just taken over from Mr. John Carpenter, another recent home-comer, who will have exciting stories to tell of his journey to the coast with Mrs. Carpenter and the children.

The word which has been with me more than any other during the past few weeks is John 21. 1: "After these things Jesus showed Himself *again* to His disciples." As you pray for Szechwan, re-

member that there is no more essential need than this, that our risen Lord should reveal Himself to us *again*, and renew us in faith and hope and love and courage and joy for the work of the Gospel during 1939.

Yours very gratefully,
FRANK HOUGHTON,
Bishop.

WESTERN SZECHWAN DIOCESE.

News has just been received, as we go to press, that the House of Bishops of the Chung Hua Sheng Kung Hui, meeting in Hongkong during the last week of November, appointed the Rt. Rev. Bishop C. T. Song to succeed Bishop Holden as Diocesan Bishop of Western Szechwan. We give thanks to God that He has called one of His Chinese servants to this responsible position, and ask the prayers of all friends of Western China for Bishop Song as he enters on this new stage of his life and service for Christ there.

The Rt. Rev. Song Cheng-tsi is a B.A. of the West China Union University who was ordained deacon in 1927, priest in 1928, and consecrated as Assistant Bishop in Western China on St. Peter's Day, June 29th, 1929. His ministry has been specially acceptable to the students in Chengtu, both Christian and non-Christian, among whom he has done a great work for God; while the depth of his spirituality and the example of his prayer life have been a real inspiration to many of his colleagues, both Chinese and foreign.

NEWS FROM THE STATIONS

Day 1. Lanchung (Paoning).

Prayer would be valued for the newly-formed Young People's Band. Please also pray for hos-

pital work, and for work in the city orphanage. Miss E. M. Sanderson has recently joined the Lanchung staff.

Day 3. Ilung.

Mr. Liu would value prayer for work in Ilung city. The church is small, and the effects of the Communist visit are still felt.

Day 4. Kwangyüan.

A week of special meetings was held for students and young people during the summer vacation. Pastor Yang conducted them, and was ably assisted by his daughter, who was home from school in the west of the province. Please continue to pray for work in this city which is growing in importance.

Day 5. Pachung (Pachow).

The Christian prison governor has recently been through a time of testing, since two men escaped and were never recovered. It was feared that this would mean the dismissal of the governor, and the closing of the door for Gospel work in the prison. The governor has not, however, been blamed in any way, and the work is progressing. Please pray about the results of the Young People's Campaign which was to be held at the end of November, the meetings being led by Mr. Crockett, diocesan Young People's worker. Local conditions are improving, and it is hoped to visit the outstations this winter. Negotiations for the opening of a preaching hall on the street are in progress.

Day 8. Nanchung.

The work in some country places gives cause for praise. Three groups of people are now meeting in the T'iao Teng Pa area. Please continue to pray that more people may be reached in this great city.

Day 12. Chühsien.

Prayer is asked for a newly-started meeting for

enquirers, and also Gospel preaching in the preaching hall on one evening each week. It is hoped that some of the city people may thus be reached. Much prayer is needed for the outstations of T'u Ch'i and San-huei, where the work is difficult, and for Wuchiach'ang, where one of the two men Christians has fallen back into sin. Please also pray for several young men enquirers at the outstation of Ts'ao-Pa-ch'ang.

Day 13. **Tachu.**

Since Mr. and Mrs. Simmonds left for furlough in April, one of the local people, Mrs. Wang, has been in charge of the women's work, and her most heartening faithfulness and zeal have been rewarded by steady, if unspectacular, progress. She herself says that she took up the responsibility with fear and trembling, feeling her inability and weakness, but that the Lord has been very near and has given her strength. During September and October two members of the diocesan Women's Evangelistic Band put in some useful work in the city and outstations. It is of interest that of the five members of this Band, two are daughters of Mrs. Wang.

Day 14. **Tahsien.**

During the second half of June, special meetings were held in the city, the leader being Miss Chen Mei-ing, of Shanghai. These were well attended, and Miss Chen's messages were appreciated, especially by the women, some definite decisions being made for the Lord. The yearly Bible School for country leaders was held at Hsia-pa-keo in July, about twenty attending. This work was entirely undertaken by the Chinese, and according to reports received, there was certainly some blessing. The work in the city has continued as usual. Much prayer is needed for work amongst men which is in a weak state. Evangelistic work is being con-

siderably increased in the city both in the preaching hall and also in the homes of the Christians, and we are hoping that the latter places will become vital centres of evangelism. Please pray for this. Country markets are being visited both by men and women workers, and market day preaching is being done. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter left for furlough early in September, and Mr. and Mrs. Williamson are here temporarily until Mr. and Mrs. Bevan are able to return.

Day 16. Liangshan.

As there is neither doctor nor nurse now resident in Liangshan, the hospital has had to be closed temporarily. The Rev. David Hsü, who was ordained presbyter in July, is now in charge of the Liangshan church, and it is hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Williamson will shortly be taking up the work in Tienkiang. Please pray much for workers and Christians in Liangshan city, as they are in constant danger from air raids. Sunday morning services have to be held at daybreak to avoid interruptions.

Day 17. Kaihsien.

The Rev. and Mrs. Iliff arrived here early in September. Towards the end of that month were held the long expected and prayed for revival meetings led by the Rev. Marcus Cheng. These proved a time of great blessing. About two hundred Christians gathered on the Mission compound for the week, and the church was filled on several occasions. The addresses given were a great help to many, and one of the noteworthy features was the spontaneous prayer and testimony which followed them. There is much for which to thank God in connection with these meetings. Prison visiting was resumed early in September, both men and women being visited on Thursday afternoons. The preaching hall is open on Tuesdays and Fridays,

and the Men's Bible Class is held on Wednesday evenings. A Boys' Bible Class meets on Sunday mornings under the leadership of Mr. Iliff. Prayer is asked for all these and other activities.

Day 18. Wanhhsien.

The work this autumn opened with an excellent series of meetings conducted by the Rev. Marcus Cheng. The attendance was good in spite of indifferent weather, and in addition to local people, there were twenty to thirty visitors from other places. The teaching given concerned the fundamentals of Christian experience, and has borne fruit; we look to see yet more. Sunday services are still well attended, chiefly by the many refugees, and new contacts, with which it is difficult to keep pace, are constantly being made. Work is being started among the wounded soldiers in the five military hospitals now situated here. We hope to minister to the men in various ways—through preaching, singing choruses, writing home letters for them, and meeting the hospital boats. Please pray that this may prove a wide-open door for the Gospel. A second Sunday School has been started right in the city for the children of the educated classes and of church members. Miss Dix, who has returned to Tahsien, will be missed in the ladies' work. The foreign staff will be as before—Mr. and Mrs. Sadler and Mr. Benson.

Day 19. Fengkieh.

Numbers of wounded soldiers are now located here. Permission to visit them has been sought, but so far without avail. Prayer is requested in regard to this. Several of the patients have been attending services and Bible classes. Gospel work was begun in the local prison during November. Outdoor work has been resumed, starting again in the east end of the city, the plan being to try and

carry on with regular meetings on Tuesday forenoons, afternoons and evenings, consecutively, so that the Message may be passed on to greater numbers of city and country folk than previously. **Yünyang** and **Yünanch'ang** were both represented at the Wanh sien meetings of the Rev. Marcus Cheng. In some cases the outcome has been a diligent searching of the Scriptures, seeking God's face in secret, or beginning worship at home. Mr. Wang Ming-hsioh and Mr. Harper spent nearly a month after the meetings at Yünyang, Yünanch'ang and Nanch'i, reiterating and re-emphasising the themes preached by Mr. Cheng. Meetings were well attended and there was a helpful spirit. One of the best evidences we have that the Lord has been working is the marked opposition of the Evil One in the experience of those who professed blessing.

Day 22. **Chongpa.**

Pastor Chu writes of great encouragement in connection with a Bible Class he holds for Christians early every morning. He is working through the book, "Look! Listen!" which was written by the Rev. H. A. Maxwell for the R.T.S., and one of the church members is making each chapter into a booklet for local distribution. They have also opened a preaching hall, and many are hearing the Gospel in this way.

Day 23. **Mienyang.**

The visit of three Chinese lady evangelists from Nanking in May resulted in a number of conversions both in the city church and amongst the boys and girls in the schools, as well as a deeper work of the Holy Spirit amongst many who were already true Christians. As part of the follow-up work of this Mission, a new special Bible Study meeting for Christians was formed in which it has been possible

to give deeper Christian teaching than in past years the spiritual level of the congregation allowed. Recently a group of twenty-one men and women were confirmed. Many of them manifested a heaven-born joy in the consciousness of the privilege they then entered into. Please pray for them as they begin a life of bold and fuller witness for Christ. There has been especial encouragement here in the new way in which Christians' pockets are being affected by spiritual blessing, thus bringing the goal of self-support considerably nearer. In the Boys' School an average of over forty boys attend every Monday a Christian Endeavour meeting in the Church Hall. The girls also have a similar meeting at the Ladies' House. There is need for much prayer for the Chinese teaching staff of the Middle School here, who seem by reason of a number of "hindrances" to be very lukewarm in things spiritual.

Day 24. **Anhsien.**

The visit of a down-river evangelist, Miss Chiang, during the months of July and August, was greatly blessed to this church. She held classes for the Christians every day, and several were led by God's Spirit to make big adjustments in their lives. This served as an excellent preparation for the Revival Meetings conducted by Miss Christensen in the month of September, when there was a good response to the Gospel message, and many nominal Christians were soundly converted.

Day 25. **Mienchu.**

Pastor Chia Yu Ming and his wife, refugees from Nanking, where they had a well-attended Bible School, have been staying here for the past two months and giving valuable help in the work. Their saintly lives and their accounts of what God has

been doing in other parts of China have stirred us up to claim the promises of God for West China as well. Many met several times a day for prayer in preparation for the revival meetings conducted by Miss Christensen at the end of September. Her meetings were well attended by people from all the country churches, and every afternoon a large number of local people also came. Perhaps the greatest blessing came to those who had sadly drifted away from God. A former paid worker in the church who was excommunicated for a grievous offence has sincerely and publicly repented. A young man who had made such a mess of his life that he had attempted suicide was also broken down in real contrition and has shown by his changed life since that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is indeed the power of God unto salvation. Many others came through to a real knowledge of Jesus Christ at the meetings, but some, of course, resisted, and their resistance prevented the fuller revival for which prayer had been made.

Over twenty nurses are in the Hospital Training School, three of whom have recently expressed their wish to be baptised. Pastor Chia has been a great help to them all. There are three young men in the Evangelists' Training Class, one from the Bible Society in Chengtu and the other two from the Eastern Szechwan diocese. Pastor Tuan has come to help in the place of Pastor Lin who has gone to Chengtu for further study.

We are now getting into touch with some very promising young men of the educated type in local government circles who come for Bible study on Wednesday afternoons. The women's work, under Mrs. Maxwell's supervision, also has encouraging features. The return of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins to help in all this work is eagerly awaited, as it is more than the present staff can cope with at times.

Day 26. Tehyang.

Miss Christensen has once more proved God-sent. Nearly all the men and women from Tehyang and Lochiang who attended her meetings in Mienchu and Hanchow have returned greatly changed. A special cause for joy has been the conversion of the evangelist's wife, who is expected now to become just as much a help to the church as she formerly was a hindrance. The workers are much encouraged, and believe God's time has now come to do a new thing in this very needy church.

Day 27. Hanchow.

God continues to work in a new way in this district, and we are full of praise for unbelievers converted and for believers revived; and we are continuing to pray hard that the present movement may grow to the dimensions of a real revival. Please pray for that with us. God gave us rich blessings at the tent campaign in Lienshan; a number there were converted and many more awakened. At the Hanchow special meetings, conducted by Miss Christensen, which have just finished, there were fifteen believers from Lienshan, brought in as a result of the tent work. We have now secured a rented house on the street of Lienshan and the little flock there is visited every week. The priest in charge of the temple, in the courtyard of which we pitched the tent, was himself the first to repent and believe. On the day we left he took off his priest's rosary and gave it to us as a token of sincerity, and changed his priest's robe for civilians. He is now gatekeeper for our church in Mienyang, and growing rapidly in the Christian life. An old gentleman of 72, a slave to opium, who has never heard a word of the Gospel before, believed. He went to our hospital at Mienchu and broke off his opium. He then came to these meetings at Hanchow, and there received the Holy Spirit and the

assurance that he was "born again." He has gone back to his country market town full of life and joy. These are modern miracles in Lienshan. I have never before seen a priest converted. Neither have I seen a man of over 70 converted. There is also a country woman there named Li who has found the Lord in the same way, and the simplicity and radiancy of her faith leave me astonished. She prays now about every simplest thing, and gets her prayers wonderfully answered. I could tell about many more but space does not permit.

The six days' meetings conducted by Miss Christensen here were crowned by a flood of blessing. The church has been purified as by a thorough spring-cleaning. The spiritual life of most of the believers has been raised to a new level. The Biblewoman, Mrs. Li, after having preached the Gospel for many years without fruit, has herself been born again and is full of joy and praise. A woman of over 60, who until a fortnight ago had been a bitter opponent, and who did her best to prevent her daughter-in-law from coming to church, has also met with God at these meetings and been regenerated. Space will not permit to tell more here of all God's goodness to us at Hanchow. But He has more than met our expectations, and has given a full answer to your prayers and ours. Praise His Holy Name!

Day 28. Sintu.

The Rev. Tuan Sheng Ngen reports that he has been able to do good work in the preaching hall, the numbers of those attending and the real interest they took in the message, making the work well worth while. The country work is, however, the most promising feature in this place. A few of the leaders in the Rural Reconstruction work have come to Mr. Tuan for occasional Bible study, but

Sunday is very often one of their busiest days.

Mrs. Loh has now completed her course in the Women's Bible School in Chengtu and has been located to this place.

Day 29. Chongchiang.

During the past year several people have been baptised. These are nearly all country folk. There has been little visible blessing among the city people. One farmer, lately baptised, comes regularly to church, though living ten miles away. He is very bright and has won several members of his family, himself teaching them the Bible. A woman, also lately baptised, who lives more than ten miles away, found it difficult to get to church in time on Sunday, so she has taken a room in the town, walks in on Saturday, attends services on Sunday, and walks home on Monday. In another country place, several have been won through the efforts of a man who has been a Christian for many years.

N.B.—This was written before the Revival Meetings were held in Chongchiang. Reports of these have not yet been received.

D.A.W.C. WIMBLEDON AUXILIARY.

The eighteenth Annual Gathering of Friends was held at Emmanuel Church Hall, Wimbledon, on Wednesday, November 16th, 1938, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Douglas Wood, M.C. Dr. Rupert Snell presided. Although numbers were less than in past years owing to other meetings and Sales of Work being held on that day, the interest and friendliness of those present was unmistakable and the address given by the Rev. F. A. Skinner, of the China Inland Mission, recently returned from

the Diocese of E. Szechwan, was listened to with great interest and attention. Mr. A. W. Churchill, Chairman of the Auxiliary, led in prayer for the needs of the West China Dioceses and Mr. A. J. Stewart, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, expressed on behalf of the Auxiliary their sympathy with the Bishop and Mrs. Holden in the severance of their active work in China and their grateful thanks for all God had enabled them to do for the growing Szechwan Church. Miss Hughes-Hallett, the Organising Secretary, whom we were glad to welcome, spoke of the needs and opportunities of the present situation. The meeting closed with prayer by the Rev. J. Douglas Wood, M.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The well-known Collector, Mr. George Eumorfopoulos, is inviting all who are interested to view his collection of **Chinese, Persian and other Fine Arts**, at **7, Chelsea Embankment, S.W.3**, on **Saturday, January 14th, 1939**, between 10 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. The price of admission is 2/6. H.E. The Chinese Ambassador has kindly promised to honour the Exhibition by visiting it in the morning; and the entire proceeds will be devoted to the **Chinese Universities Relief Fund** of International Student Service, to help Chinese students who have become destitute as a result of the war in China. We feel sure that some of our friends who are within reach of London will be glad to take advantage of this opportunity to see a unique collection and at the same time to help Chinese students who are in real need.

The nearest station to 7, Chelsea Embankment is Sloane Square (District Railway), and the most convenient buses are Nos. 39 to Tite Street, 49 to Albert Bridge, or 137 to Chelsea Bridge (north side).

PERSONAL NOTES

Miss M. A. Armfield and **Miss V. C. Mannett** arrived home in Australia in November for furlough.

Rev. F. A. Smalley, with his wife and family, are attending the International Missionary Council Conference in Madras, after which they hope to return to England for furlough.

The Rev. H. A. and Mrs. Maxwell, with their children, hope to leave Mienchu in February next to return home on furlough.

Mrs. V. H. Donnithorne has been ill with a somewhat severe form of dysentery, but is reported to be now better.

Deaconess E. L. Stewart is in England at present on furlough.

Bishop and Mrs. Houghton arrived in Hongkong from Szechwan at the end of November for a meeting of the House of Bishops of the Chung Hua Sheng Kong Hui. After this he was proceeding to Shanghai to attend an important Conference of Directors and Superintendents of the C.I.M. This will probably be over by the New Year, when he and Mrs. Houghton were expecting to fly back to West China.

The Rev. G. H. Aldis was expected to reach Shanghai from Paoning in time to spend Christmas with his father, the Rev. W. H. Aldis, who is due there December 19th for the C.I.M. Directors' Conference. They will probably be leaving for England together in January or early February.

The Rev. Theo. Benson has had furlough granted but cannot leave until arrangements have been made for carrying on his work at Wanh sien.

Mrs. C. Bromby is at present in the C.I.M. Nursing Home, seriously ill with pleurisy added to heart trouble, after months of ill health. Prayer will be valued for her speedy recovery.

The **Rev. J. and Mrs. Carpenter** and two children are due in England on January 6th.

Dr. Max B. W. Gray is leaving for China on January 24th.

Miss Warin leaves on January 27th.

The **Rev. F. A. Skinner** and family, the **Rev. W. H. C. Simmonds** and family are sailing on April 27th.

Mrs. T. E. Robinson and **Rev. K. C. and Mrs. Bevan** and Jennifer have arrived in Szechwan after a long and hazardous overland journey. Mr. Bevan was returning from Hankow and had already reached Ichang when he was recalled to Changsa to meet the ladies' party. They then had to journey south and via Kweichow up to Szechwan. Mrs. Robinson has returned to Liangshan and the Bevans to Tahsien.

The **Rev. and Mrs. Williamson** were recently transferred from Tienkiang to Tahsien.

We would express sincere sympathy with the **Rev. A. C. Lee** and his three children in the death of Mrs. Lee in October last after a long illness. Mr. and Mrs. Lee were formerly stationed in Chongkiang, Chongpa, and Chengtu, where Mr. Lee was for a time in charge of the C.M.S. Hostel at the West China Union University.

At Paoning, on October 8th, a son was born to **Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Lloyd**.

PRAYER MEETINGS.

The monthly D.A.W.C. Prayer Meetings are being held (D.V.) on the **Third Tuesday** in each month until Easter next, the dates for the New Year being January 17th, February 21st and March 21st, 1939. The time is from **3 to 4 p.m.**, and the place, the offices (by their kind permission) of the **Church Association, 14, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.** (close to Charing Cross Underground Station and the Embankment Gardens). In view of the special needs and opportunities in both Eastern and Western Szechwan at the present time, it is greatly hoped that friends will make a real effort to attend and join in prayer for the progress of Christ's Kingdom in Western China.

Remembrance of the work there has been promised at the following parochial gatherings for prayer, at which friends are always welcome:—

St. Stephen's, E. Putney ...	1st Tuesday, afternoon.
Emmanuel, Wimbledon ...	1st Friday, 5.30 & 8.15 p.m.
Haling Hall, Croydon ...	1st Friday, 8.15 p.m.
St. Michael's, Braintree ...	1st Saturday, evening.
Holy Trinity, Eastbourne...	1st Saturday, 5.30 p.m.
St. Peter's, Southborough...	4th Tuesday, 11.45 a.m.
	1st Saturday, 6 p.m.
Thorsden, Guildford Road,	
Woking	3rd Tuesday, 11.30 a.m.
Christ Church, Beckenham...	4th Friday.
St. James', Dover	4th Sunday, evening service.
St. Mark's, Preston	Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m.
Runham, Gt. Yarmouth ...	Wednesdays, 9.45 a.m.
Mantby, Gt. Yarmouth ...	Thursdays, 9.45 a.m.
Ferndown, Dorset	Wednesdays
Parish Church, Sevenoaks...	Fridays (two meetings).
St. John's, Ealing	Fridays, 5.30 p.m.
Christ Church, Blackpool ...	Fridays, 7 p.m.
Pettaugh, Stowmarket ...	Friday, evening.
Union Hall, Dover	Saturdays, evening.
St. Andrew's, Cullompton...	1st Saturday evening.
Reigate Parish Church ...	4th Saturday.
Christ Church, Barnet ...	
St. Cuthbert's, Preston ...	
St. Luke's, Chadderton ...	
Holy Trinity, Margate ...	
Stanstead, Suffolk	
St. Peter's, Thetford. Norfolk	
St. Mary's, Watford.. ...	

PRAYER CYCLE.

EASTERN SZECHWAN:

Day.

1. LANGCHUNG (PAONING). TANISHAN.
2. TS' IEN-FUH-CH'ANG.
3. ILUNG, TSANGKI, KIENKOH.
4. KWANGYUAN, CHAOHWA.
5. PACHUNG (PACHOW), NANCHIANG,
TUNGKIANG.
6. NANPU, FU-TSUN-I, YENTING.
7. YINGSHAN, CHOWKOW.
8. NANCHUNG (SHUNKING), HSICHUNG.
9. KWANGAN.
10. YOCH'IH.
11. KUAN-IN-KOH, LINSHUI.
12. CHUHSIEN (T'UCHI).
13. TACHU, WU-CHIA-CH'ANG.
14. TAHSIEN, SUANHAN.
15. WANYUAN, CHENGKOW.
16. LIANGSHAN, T' IENKIANG.
17. KAIHSIEN, WEN-T'ANG-TSING, LIN-KIANG-
18. WANHSIEN. SHIH
19. FENGKIEH (KWEIFU), YUNYANG,
YUIN-AN-CH'ANG.

WESTERN SZECHWAN:

20. MOWCHOW.
21. P'ING-WU (LONGAN), KIANGYU.
22. CHONGPA.
23. MIENYANG (MIENCHOW).
24. ANHSIEN.
25. MIENCHU.
26. TEHYANG.
27. HANCHOW.
28. SINTU.
29. CHONGKIANG.
30. CHENGTU.
31. UNOCCUPIED PLACES.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS FOR THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION.

LET US THANK GOD

For the appointment of Bishop Song as the first Chinese diocesan bishop in Western China.

For His abundant blessing on the special meetings held by Miss Christensen in Western Szechwan; for new converts won and backsliders restored. For the new inquirers in Futsunyi and their keenness; for the Young People's Forward Movement in Eastern Szechwan; and for His enabling power manifested to Mrs. Wang in taking charge of the women's work in Tachu.

For journeying mercies to both C.I.M. and C.M.S. parties of missionaries returning to East and West Szechwan respectively.

For Mrs. A. G. Lee's release from prolonged weakness, and for her service for the Master in West Szechwan in former years.

LET US PRAY

For Bishop Song as he enters on his new responsibilities as Bishop of Western Szechwan.

For General Chiang Kai-shek and his wife, that, notwithstanding China's overwhelming reverses in recent months, God may keep them steadfast in faith and courage to inspire the stricken people.

For all new inquirers; that they may grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ; especially remembering any who have been won through the Young People's Campaign in Pachung at the end of November; the nurses in training at Mienchu; and the former priest from Lienshan.

For all who have been recently baptised or confirmed, that they may be kept true to Christ and be faithful in witnessing for Him.

For places in special danger from air raids: For those who are suffering from economic problems as a result of the war; and for destitute Chinese students left stranded in foreign countries as well as in China itself. For all evangelistic work among wounded soldiers and refugees.

For missionaries returning on furlough or already arrived from West China, that they may be strengthened and refreshed in body and in spirit, and may be the means of stirring up more prayer for the work there.

That God may stir the hearts of His people to give more generously for the financial needs of the work, which it is proving increasingly difficult to meet.

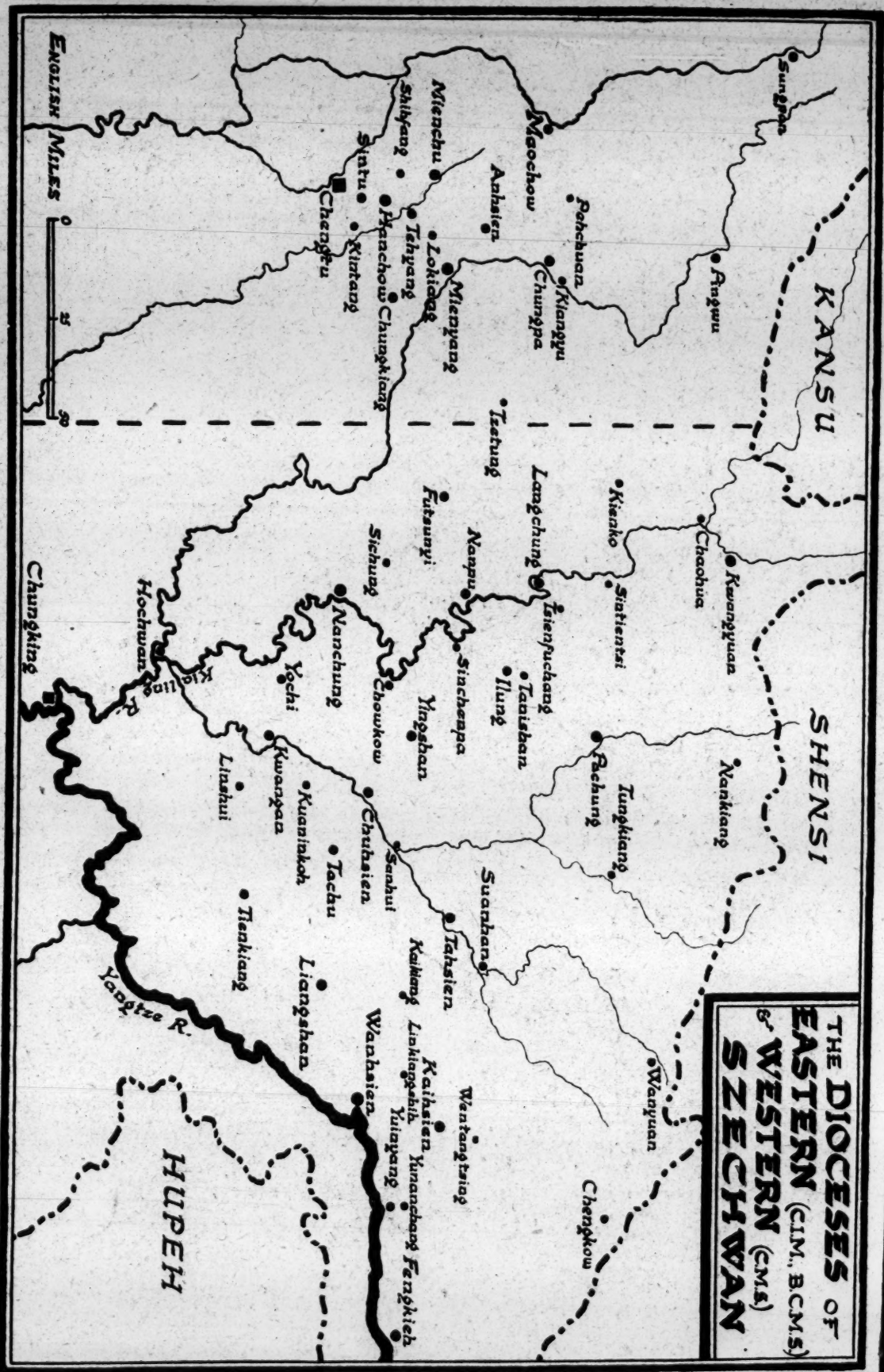
PRAYER FOR WESTERN CHINA.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank Thee for Thy great love in redeeming us unto Thyself by the precious blood of Thy dear Son and for the gift of Thy sanctifying Spirit. May we show our love to Thee by loving the souls for whom Christ died, and by seeking to make known His glorious salvation throughout the world. We pray Thee to send down Thy heavenly blessing upon Thy servants, the Bishops and pastors of Thy flock in Western China, and all who are associated with them in their work for Thee. May Thy presence be with our missionary brethren and sisters who are seeking to bring the knowledge of Thee to those who know Thee not. May Thy Holy Spirit bless and prosper all their work and bring it to good success. We pray for those who have been baptised into Thy faith, fear and love that they may grow in grace and in the knowledge of Thee. We pray also for those who know Thee not that they may be drawn by the cords of Thy Fatherly love to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, that they and we may work and pray together for the return of our King to establish His Everlasting Kingdom.

Finally, we pray that Thou wouldest comfort and strengthen all who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other anxiety; cheer and encourage all who are in special need of Thy help; and bring both them and us to Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Bulletin is issued four times a year, and is sent free of charge to all subscribers of 5/- and over to the funds of the Diocesan Association. Others who wish for the Magazine can obtain it from the Organising Secretary on payment of 2/- per annum (to include postage). Residents in **Canada, Australia or New Zealand**, however, should apply to the respective Secretaries in those countries, whose names appear inside the front cover of the Magazine.



**THE DIOCESES OF
EASTERN (C.M., B.C.M.S.)
& WESTERN (C.M.S.)
SZECHWAN**

N.B. Pingwu and Kiangsu, although in the Diocese of Western Szechwan, are stations of the C.I.M.
Church Army representatives are working under the C.M.S. in Western Szechwan.